UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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TBS OCEAN CARRIERS, LTD.,

: ECF

Plaintiff, : FIRST AMENDED

-against- : <u>VERIFIED COMPLAINT</u>
- **07 Civ. 8481 (GEL)**

HANJIN TRANSPORTATION CO., LTD., d/b/a/ HJT CO., LTD.

Defendant.

Plaintiff, TBS OCEAN CARRIERS, LTD., (hereinafter referred to as "Plaintiff"), by and through its attorneys,
Cardillo & Corbett, as and for its First Amended Verified
Complaint against the Defendant, HANJIN TRANSPORTATION CO.,
LTD., d/b/a/ HJT CO., LTD. (hereinafter referred to as
"Defendant") alleges, upon information and belief, as follows:

JURISDICTION

1. This is an admiralty and maritime claim within the meaning of Rule 9(h) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and 28 United States Code § 1333.

THE PARTIES

2. At all times material to this action, Plaintiff was, and still is, a foreign company duly organized and existing under the laws of the Marshall Islands with an address at Trust Company Complex, Ajeltake Road, Ajeltake Island, Majuro, Marshall Islands MH96960.

3. Upon information and belief, Defendant was, and still is a foreign corporation, or other business entity, organized under, and existing by virtue of the laws of South Korea, with an address at 21st Floor, Marine Center 118, Namdaemunro 2-GA, Jung-Gu, Seoul, Korea. Defendant does business under the following two names: HANJIN TRANSPORTATION CO., LTD., and HJT CO., LTD.

DEFENDANT'S BREACH OF CONTRACT

- 4. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1-3 of this Complaint as if set forth at length herein.
- 5. Plaintiff and Defendant entered into a time charter party dated June 28, 2007, whereby Plaintiff, as Disponent Owners, let and Defendant, as Charterers, hired the M/V MIAMI MAIDEN (the "Vessel") for one time-chartered trip from the Far East to the Middle East (the "Charter Party").
- 6. Under the terms of the Charter Party, Defendant is obligated to pay hire up to the estimated date of redelivery. The amount of hire due and payable by Defendant is \$485,395.18, which amount Defendant has failed and refused to pay.
- 7. After accepting delivery of the Vessel under the Charter Party, Defendant loaded a cargo of steel products at the port of Inchon, South Korea.

- 8. Upon information and belief, Defendant issued more than one original bill of lading for the same cargo in breach of the Charter Party.
- 9. Upon information and belief, Defendant, as carrier, issued a bill of lading dated July 26, 2007, for the full cargo of steel products loaded at Inchon. That bill of lading shows Gulf Agency Denizlik A.S. as the Consignee and Notify Party. A copy of that bill of lading is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.
- 10. Defendant, as carrier, issued another bill of lading dated July 20, 2007, for part of the cargo included under the bill of lading referred to in Paragraph 8 herein. The bill of lading dated July 20, 2007, purports to cover 925 bundles of steel beams (the "Bogac Cargo"). The bill of lading covering the Bogac Cargo shows a bank as the Consignee and Bogac Profil Demir Celik San Tic A.S. of Instanbul, Turkey ("Bogac"), as the Notify Party. Both bills of lading show Dilisklesi, Turkey, as the port of discharge. A copy of the bill of lading covering the Bogac Cargo is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.
- 11. The Vessel discharged the Bogac Cargo at Dilisklesi and then sailed for Hereke Port, Turkey, to discharge additional cargo loaded on board the Vessel by Defendant.

- 12. The Vessel was arrested on or about September 21, 2007, while at Hereke Port, pursuant to an application to the Turkish court by Bogac who alleges that upon delivery of the Bogac Cargo it determined there was shortage of bundles of steel beams. The claim filed by Bogac with the Court is in the amount of Euros 200,000. Bogac, however, has demanded that Plaintiff establish security in the amount of Euros 260,000, and Plaintiff may have to establish security in that higher amount in order for the Vessel to be permitted to sail from Hereke Port.
- 13. Plaintiff tendered a letter by its P&I Club to Bogac to attempt to obtain the release of the vessel, but Bogac has demanded that Plaintiff establish instead a bank guarantee, which Plaintiff will attempt to arrange. The Vessel, therefore, remains under arrest at Hereke Port.
- 14. Under the express terms of the Charter Party

 Defendant is "to perform all cargo handling including but not

 limited to loading/lashing/unlashing/securing/tallying/trimming

 /stowing/dunnaging/discharging at [its] risk and expense".
- 15. In addition, Defendant pursuant to the express terms of the Charter Party guaranteed that its liability under the Charter Party, including liability for claims for cargo damage, would be covered by a P&I Club that is a member of the International Group of P&I Clubs.

- 16. The International Group of P&I Clubs is a group of thirteen insurance associations or clubs that provide liability cover for approximately 90% of the world's ocean going tonnage (See, http://www.igpandi.org/index.php?).
- 17. Defendant breached the Charter Party by entering their liability under the Charter Party with an organization, RaetsClub Marine Insurance B.V., that is not a member of the International Group of P&I Clubs.
- bills of lading for the same cargo, that it issued both bills of lading as carrier, and that all aspects of cargo handling were at Defendant's risk and expense under the express terms of the Charter Party, Plaintiff demanded that Defendant establish adequate security in favor of Bogac to prevent the arrest of the Vessel, and later to obtain its release, but Defendant has failed and refused to do so. Instead of offering adequate security directly to Bogac to obtain the release of the Vessel, Defendant has offered a Letter of Undertaking to Plaintiff, and not to Bogac, to be issued by an insurance association that is not a member of the International Group of P&I Clubs, and thus insufficient under the terms of the Charter Party.
- 19. Plaintiff has a claim against Defendant for breach of Charter Party for any and all damages for which it may be held liable in connection with the alleged shortage of

the Bogac Cargo, and for all costs incurred in connection with the defense of the claim by Bogac.

20. By reason of the aforesaid, Plaintiff has suffered damages in the amount of \$853,248.38, so near as the same can be estimated at present, no part of which has been paid although duly demanded, and is entitled to interest, attorneys' fees and costs as set forth below.

LONDON ARBITRATION

21. Plaintiff's claims against Defendant are subject to arbitration in London governed by English law pursuant to the terms of the Charter Party, and plaintiff has commenced arbitration in London against Defendant.

PLAINTIFF'S DAMAGES

- 22. Interest costs and attorneys' fees are routinely awarded to the prevailing party in arbitration proceedings under English law. As best as can now be estimated, Plaintiff expects to recover the following amounts from Defendant:
 - A. Principal claim:

\$853,248.38

B. Interest, arbitration fees and attorneys' fees:

\$275,000.00

Total:

\$1,128,248.38

DEFENDANT NOT FOUND WITHIN THE DISTRICT

23. The Defendant cannot be found within this
District within the meaning of Rule B of the Supplemental Rules

for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, but, upon information and belief, Defendant has, or will have during the pendency of this action, property within this District and subject to the jurisdiction of this Court, held in the hands of garnishees including, but not limited to, ABN Amro Bank NV, American Express Bank, Bank of America, Bank of Communications Co. Ltd. New York Branch, Bank of New York, Barclays Bank, BNP Paribas, Citibank, Deutsche Bank, HSBC (USA) Bank, J.P. Morgan Chase, Standard Chartered Bank, UBS AG and/or Wachovia Bank, which are believed to be due and owing to the Defendant.

24. The Plaintiff seeks an order from this court directing the Clerk of Court to issue Process of Maritime Attachment and Garnishment pursuant to Rule B of the Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims and also pursuant to the United States Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. §§ 1 and 8, attaching, inter alia, any property of the Defendant held by the aforesaid garnishees for the purpose of obtaining personal jurisdiction over the Defendant, and to secure Plaintiff's claim as described above.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays:

A. That process in due form of law issue against the Defendant, citing it to appear and answer under oath all and singular the matters alleged in the Complaint;

- That since the Defendant cannot be found within В. this District pursuant to Rule B of the Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims, this Court issue an Order directing the Clerk of Court to issue Process of Maritime Attachment and Garnishment pursuant to Rule B of the Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims and also pursuant to the United States Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. §§ 1 and 8, attaching all tangible or intangible property in whatever form or any other funds held by any garnishee, including, but not limited to, ABN Amro Bank NV, American Express Bank, Bank of America, Bank of Communications Co. Ltd. New York Branch, Bank of New York, Barclays Bank, BNP Paribas, Citibank, Deutsche Bank, HSBC (USA) Bank, J.P. Morgan Chase, Standard Chartered Bank, UBS AG and/or Wachovia Bank, which are due and owing to the Defendant, in the amount of \$1,128,248.38 to secure the Plaintiff's claims, and that all persons claiming any interest in the same be cited to appear and pursuant to Supplemental Admiralty Rule B answer the matters alleged in the Complaint;
- C. That this Court retain jurisdiction over this matter through the entry of any judgment or award associated with any of the claims currently pending, or which may be initiated in the future, including any appeals thereof; and
 - D. That the Plaintiff has such other, further and

different relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

Dated:

New York, New York October 4, 2007

> CARDILLO & CORBETT Attorneys for Plaintiff TBS OCEAN CARRIERS, LTD.

By:

Tulio R. Prieto (TP 8455)

Office and P.O. Address 29 Broadway, Suite 1710 New York, New York 10006

Tel: (212) 344-0464 Fax: (212) 797-1212

ATTORNEY'S VERIFICATION

- 1. My name is Tulio R. Prieto.
- 2. I am over 18 years of age, of sound mind, capable of making this Verification, and fully competent to testify to all matters stated herein.
- 3. I am a partner in the firm of Cardillo & Corbett, attorneys for the Plaintiff.
- 4. I have read the foregoing Verified Complaint and know the contents thereof and believe the same to be true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.
- 5. The reason why this Verification is being made by the deponent and not by the Plaintiff is that the Plaintiff is a business organization with no officers or directors now within this District.
- 6. The source of my knowledge and the grounds for my belief are the statements made, and the documents and information received from, the Plaintiff and agents and/or representatives of the Plaintiff.
 - 7. I am authorized to make this Verification on

behalf of the Plaintiff.

Tulio R. Prieto

Sworn to before me this $4^{\rm th}$ day of October, 2007

NOTARY PUBLIC

CHRISTOPHIL B. COSTAS
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 31-0773693
Qualified in New York County
Commission Expires April 30, 2011

EXHIBIT 1

TOTAL NUMBER OF CONTAINERS
OR PACKAGESIIN WORDS)

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AS AGENT FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE MASTER

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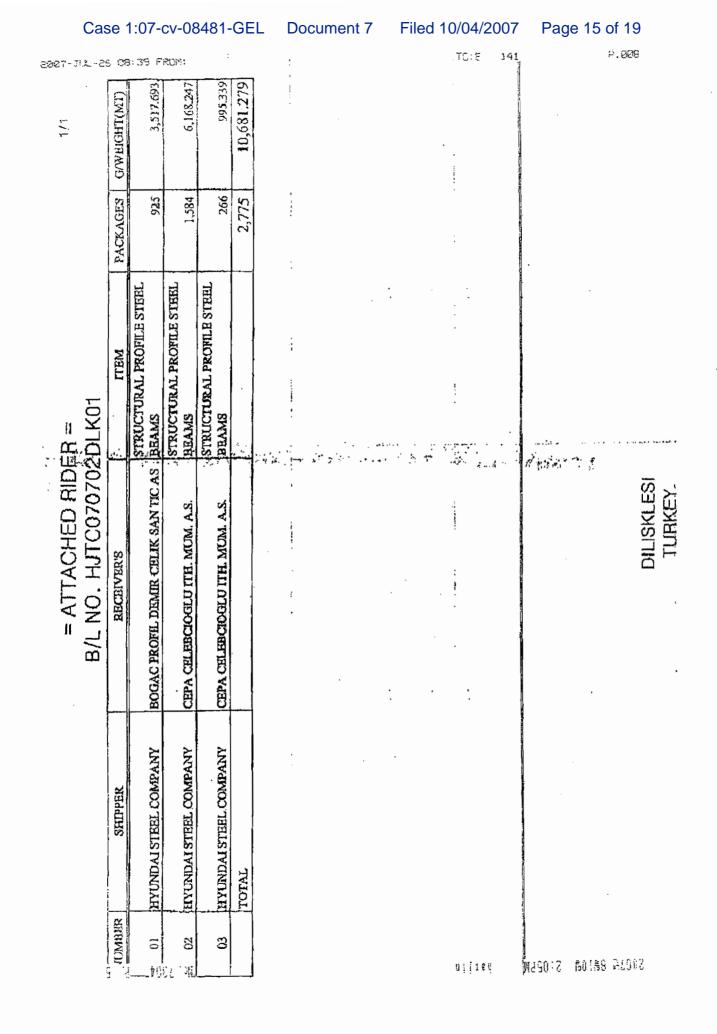


EXHIBIT 2

(B/L NO.:HJTCO70702DLK001) RIDER ATTACHED

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